



Meeting Summary

Comprehensive Plan Community Wide Meeting

Date of Meeting March 21, 2006
Location Carrollton Cultural Arts Center

In attendance Grady Sain, Sr.
 Daniel Jackson
 Casey Coleman
 Jennie Grooms
 Mike Wiggins
 Joe McGinnis
 Mathew Clay
 Matt Hagler
 Emily Cole
 Dave Schmit
 David Joiner
 Betheruz N. Sethna
 Jacqueline Dost
 Danielle Jenkins
 Connie Wilburn
 Peter Balega
 Candace Pate
 Gwyn Chesnut
 Oscar Rhudy
 J Poole
 Kent Thompson
 Charles Griffin
 Laci B. Campbell
 Erica Studdard

Agenda

6:30 pm

Sign-in

Welcome & Introductions - Charles Griffin, City Planner

Meeting Purpose - Charles Griffin

Issues and Opportunities – Maureen Gresham, ARCADIS GM

Open Question & Answer

Adjourn



Meeting Summary

At 6:45 PM, City Planner, Charles Griffin, kicked off the meeting with introductions and general facility information. Everyone in attendance was directed to the various displays, including two graphic representations of the Carrollton Greenbelt, a graphic of the Carrollton Downtown Master Plan and various displays detailing demographic, economic development and growth statistics for Carroll County and several neighboring counties. There were also several handouts available, including a Comprehensive Plan update schedule and pamphlet detailing general background information on the Georgia State Minimum Planning Standards.

Charles then began with stating the purpose of the meeting and gave a brief overview of what to expect. Charles stated there were two goals for the meeting:

1. To convey a general understanding of the purpose and process of Comprehensive Planning.
2. Engage the audience in an open discussion regarding issues and opportunities in the City of Carrollton.

After a small discussion about the purpose of the meeting, Charles introduced Maureen Gresham, a consultant with ARCADIS GM. Maureen then led the group with the next two discussion points (goals of the meeting).

Maureen began by presenting a brief overview of what-is a Comprehensive Plan and why local governments are required to maintain and update them. Maureen also spoke about the importance of public involvement during the Comprehensive Planning process and emphasized the need for as much public involvement as possible. Maureen then began an exercise aimed at engaging the audience in identifying "issues and opportunities" in Carrollton.

A discussion then began covering various issues and general ideas about the City of Carrollton. The issues and ideas included:

Opportunities/likes

Carrollton Greenbelt
University of West Georgia
Downtown Carrollton
Historic center/character of downtown
Train depot
Parks and Recreation options
Vibrant downtown
Diverse entertainment opportunities
Hospital and health care options
People
Industrial base
Sense of community



Issues/dislikes

Lack of bike paths
Bankhead Highway (number of curve cuts)
Vacant Big Boxes
Large Parking lots
Lack of streetscapes
Excessive Signage
Western Carrollton/low income areas
Lack of Identity
Teenage pregnancy
Overgrowth/rapid growth
Migrant needs and resources
Recreation/Lake Carroll Docks
Business and employment opportunities

Needs

Safe routes to school
Greenbelt
Curb side recycle
New business support
Simple life
Help underprivileged
Development standards
Quality growth
Connect maple with downtown
Reduced crime rate
Redevelopment incentives
Maintain small town feel
No metal buildings
Quality programs for seniors and senior transportation
Protect small business
Fraternity housing

Each item was generated and discussed by the community with some members participating more than others.

Charles Griffin then came back up to talk about the overall schedule and what to expect over the next few months. Charles stated the meeting would be summarized then posted on the city's website. Charles also stated that the next meeting would be in late April and would include the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. He also stated that the next Community Wide meeting would be held sometime during the summer.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15pm.